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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

26 MAR 1993

THE SECRETARY - ROOM 22250L

IN REPLY REFER TO:

7330-7/1700A3

Your reference No:
3053220019

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Honorable Strom Thurmond
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Thurmond:

This is in reply to your letter of March 4, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of several of your constituents regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Your constituents are specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the Notice.

We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take your constituents' concerns into account when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without

Congressional

Dir 83-17-93

PLEASE MAKE 2 EXTRA COPIES OF INCOMING, ATTACHMENTS,
AND REPLY FOR DOCKET FILE, ROOM 222.

CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM 03/09/93

LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO.	DATE RECEIVED	DATE OF CORRESP	DATE DUE	DATE DUE OIA(857)
9301124	03/09/93	03/04/93	03/29/93	

TITLE	MEMBERS NAME	REPLY FOR SIG OF
Senator	Strom Thurmond	BC

CONSTITUENT'S NAME	SUBJECT
several constituents	inq. comments on PR Docket 92-235

REF TO	REF TO	REF TO	REF TO
PRB/ <i>am</i>			
3-10-93			
DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE

STROM THURMOND
SOUTH CAROLINA
COMMITTEES

PRB
92-235

James R. Thomas
342 Sonora Dr.
Easley, S.C. 29640

The Honorable J. Strom Thurmond
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20540

I ask you to please vote against the passage of this document.

There are many hobby shops nationwide whose existence depend on veto of this document. Contests are held nationwide, with much business going to tourism, hotels, motels and food serving industries that benefit greatly from this hobby.

Again, please. I ask you to veto this document in the interest of all those I have mentioned so that one industry will not be killed out so that another may profit at its expense.

The Honorable Strom Thurman
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

93 FEB -4 PM 2:33

February 01, 1993

Dear Thurman,

For several years I have been interested in model aviation. I am an active member in a local club whose members enjoy constructing and operating radio controlled model airplanes.

Proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) concern me. This proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling model airplanes.

Our radio control frequencies are in the 72 - 76 MHz band. This band is primary used for private mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to the radio control frequencies and cause interference to radio control operations. I am told that of the 50 frequencies

[REDACTED]

Homer D. Miller III
165 Blue Ridge Dr.
Inman, SC 29349

The Honorable Strom Thurmond
U. S. Senate
Washington, D.C.

93 FEB -2 PM 9:59

Date: 1-28-93

The Honorable Strom Thurmond,

I am an Electronics Engineer with a major textile manufacturer. I enjoy, a great deal, the challenge and relaxation of Remote Control Models. I have a teen aged son, through this hobby we have expanded our relationship and we enjoy countless hours of fellowship with each other and thousands of other modelers from all over the country. I am an officer in one of the local clubs. We sponsor monthly events and annually our club sponsors a major event that runs three days and draws hundreds of participants from all over the Eastern United States.

I am very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communication Commission (FCC). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling models.

93 FEB -2 11:02

29 Jan 1993

The Honorable Strom Thurmond
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Thurmond

I am a retired Air Force Officer and derive many hours of enjoyment from constructing and operating radio controlled aircraft.

I am very concerned about proposed rules presently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission(FCC). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability or controlling drone aircraft.

Our radio frequencies are in the 72-75 MHz band. The band is used primarily for private land mobile dispatch operations. However our frequencies are far enough apart so we can share the band.

Now, FCC wants to create more mobile frequencies, as a result they will move closer to the radio control frequencies and cause interference problems with radio control operations. Only 19 of the current 50 frequencies would be safe to use.

When we fly radio controlled aircraft we go to great lengths to insure the safety of the operators and bystanders. Many of our safety procedures involve careful coordination and use of our frequencies. If the number of frequencies are reduced, the margin of safety will be reduced.

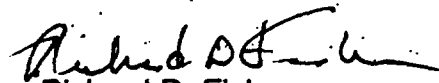
Model aircraft can have wing spans of over 12 feet and can weigh over 50 pounds. The models can be very expensive -over \$5000 in some cases. They can also cause great damage or personal injury. Our link to our model is our radio frequency. Any interference on the RC frequency results in an immediate crash of the model.

The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of the radio frequencies. We in the hobby have considerable investment

in our aircraft and our equipment. the hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to thousands of people like myself and contributes to the advancement of the aviation industry.

Please object to the FCC carrying out its proposals for the 72-76 MHz band.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Richard D. Fisher", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Richard D. Fisher

5306 Edith St.

Charleston, SC 29418

January 28, 1993
508 Valhalla Drive
93 FEB -2 Columbia, SC 29223

The Honorable Strom Thurmond
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Thurmond,

I am writing this letter to urge that you do not support NPRM PR Docket 92-235. This docket, if implemented, will severely curtail the Model Aircraft Radio Control Activity in the United States as we now know it. It plans to allocate radio frequencies for other purposes which are in the same frequency domain as those now used for the control of model aircraft by radio.

I have been involved in model aviation since August of 1992 and am currently a member of the Jackson Flyers at Fort Jackson, SC. The modeling activity is an enjoyable outlet for a large number of people, which also has many beneficial things to recommend it in a society which prides itself on new innovations and promotes skills which help to keep America on the forefront of technology. One recent example is the use of reconnaissance drones during the Gulf War to get immediate assessment of naval bombardment damage on shore targets. It is a little-known fact that the military personnel who controlled these aircraft were trained by civilian hobbyists, who had become highly skilled in this area long before they were needed to train others.

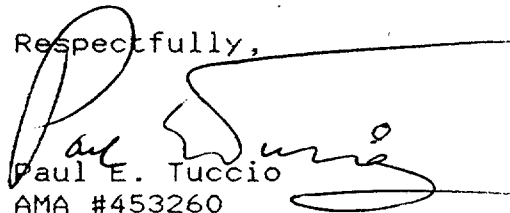
Our radio control frequencies are in the 72-76 MHz band. There are 50 channels assigned to model aircraft on the 72 MHz band, channels 11 through 60. These frequencies are shared by mobile dispatch operations. The frequencies in this band are far enough apart that both users do not interfere with each other. The FCC wants to increase the number of mobile frequencies by inserting new frequencies in between the radio control frequencies and the mobile dispatch frequencies, leaving us with only 19 channels.

The Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA), AMA-chartered clubs, and over 165,000 members, have gone to great lengths to maintain one of the best safety records of any sport or hobby. The use of interference-free frequencies insures this safety. Many of our model planes fly in excess of 100 mph and can weigh up to 40 pounds, with wing spans over 10 feet long. If the radio controlling a plane were to be subject to interference, it would turn the plane into an uncontrolled projectile capable of causing serious injury or property damage.

The FCC thinks they will improve operating conditions of land mobile radio users with this new rules change. They also think that the business users of radio are more important than radio control modelers. I do not think so. Radio control modelers are just as

important and deserve the right to have interference-free frequencies just as business users do. In the interest of model aviation, the importance of public safety, and because we have literally thousands of dollars invested in our models, radios, and flying sites, I urge you not to support PR Docket 92-235.

Respectfully,



Paul E. Tuccio
AMA #453260